PALM BEACH STATE COLLEGE

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

WINTER 2021-2022

The Community's College:

TRANSFORMING HEALTH SCIENCES EDUCATION

for the Challenges and Opportunities of Post-Pandemic Health Care

INSIDE: How the Quantum Foundation is helping Palm Beach State bring advanced technology to its nursing and health sciences students. Shown here, Quantum President Eric M. Kelly with the Anatomage Table® for virtual 3D dissection.

About this Report

The Palm Beach State College President's Report examines issues of importance related to the education of today's students for tomorrow's world. Our last issue examined the Legacy of Transformation: how the College grew from forty-one students in 1933, to forty-seven thousand on five regional campuses today; how the once all-white College is today an institution of higher learning where diversity and cross-cultural equity are celebrated and lived daily.

The President's Report is a semiannual publication of the Palm Beach State College Foundation, celebrating the College's service to a diverse student body, local employers, and the State of Florida.

This issue of the President's Report deals with the COVID-19 pandemic "as a catalyst for the transformation of medical education," as stated in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA 8/26/2020). Palm Beach State was already practicing breakthrough health and medical training, fortunate as it is to have forward-thinking leadership and faculty always pushing the envelope, as well as loyal supporters ready to fund tomorrow's needs. You will meet some of them in this report. You will also read a Palm Beach State alumnus' dramatic story of treating a critically ill COVID patient.

Worldwide demand for smart, skilled, and compassionate healthcare practitioners in all disciplines is expected to explode post-pandemic. Palm Beach State students will be ready to meet whatever challenge comes their way.

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Your comments and suggestions are welcomed and appreciated. Please address them to:

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President's Message:

THE 'SECRET SAUCE'

"What defines Palm Beach State health sciences students is their sense of humanity. That is what sets them apart."

Ava L. Parker, J.D.
President

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It is really good to see most of our students and colleagues face-to-face after such a long and trying time. Even if smiles are hidden by a mask, we can still see enthusiasm in their eyes, and it's a great feeling. The positive energy from face-to-face interaction is infectious.

We continue to be responsive to individual learning preferences with four different modalities for classroom instruction: Face-to-Face, Fully Online, Live Online (Teams/Zoom), or Hybrid, and we continue to adapt our facilities with the latest technology.

As we mark a year and a half of the pandemic, COVID drove home the point that our community, our country, our world needs more highly skilled and compassionate medical professionals. For many, that journey begins at Palm Beach State. Over the years we have recruited top-notch health sciences faculty and staff and, with what I'll call "strategic kindness" from our generous supporters, we have made major investments in the latest tools, technology, and learning environments. The pandemic experience has only increased that progress, as you will see in the reports contained herein.

I've been thinking about what I'll call the "secret sauce" that defines Palm Beach State's health sciences graduates and puts them at the top of the list for job recruiters. Yes, we have amazing faculty. Yes, we have state-of-the-art equipment in our classrooms and labs. Yes, our students gain invaluable experience during their clinical rotations.

But that is not the secret sauce. That is not what heals the whole body. What defines Palm Beach State health sciences students is their sense of humanity. That is what sets them apart.

COVID has taught us the importance of our students' capacity to offer care, respect, and empathy. Yes, their skills are unparalleled, but their ability to promote harmony and healing is what really makes a difference.

I am proud to work with students, faculty, and staff who understand the value of the "human factor," and the difference it makes in the delivery of care.

DELIVERING THE **BREATH OF LIFE**

The images are burned into our memory. Patients on ventilators struggling to survive; nurses and respiratory care technicians working with efficiency and kindness to bring relief and save lives. The first outbreaks in 2019 brought shockwaves and exposed the worldwide shortage of skilled medical personnel. The Delta variant knocked the nation to its knees. Communities that thought the corner was turned found COVID back with a vengeance. Over the summer, emergency rooms remained near capacity; doctors, nurses, medical technicians, and hospital administrators warned the community they were near exhaustion.

When COVID caseloads overwhelmed the supply of life-saving ventilators, Palm Beach State College lent ventilators and other medical supplies to partner hospitals not just once, but several times as the deadly surges returned.

With support from the Palm Beach State College Business Partnership Community, the nationally accredited two-year Respiratory Care degree program at the Phillip D. Lewis Center on the Palm Beach Gardens campus continues to ramp up its training to meet the need today and tomorrow, whether it be in a hospital emergency room, intensive care unit, or general floor therapy. Licensed graduates can also transport critically ill patients from an overcrowded hospital to one that has excess capacity.

Palm Beach State is also one of just three state colleges in Florida to offer a Bachelor of Science in Cardiopulmonary Sciences. That degree provides Registered Respiratory Therapists (RRT) a broad-based curriculum that will lead to advanced credentials, professional growth, and improved skills in leadership, management, education, and research. The convenience and flexibility of the fully online program have attracted many RRT graduates who are already immersed in their jobs.

Dr. Nancy Latimer, Chair of Respiratory Care, sums it up:

"Most people don't realize how much you need a respiratory care therapist until they can't breathe." Palm Beach State students will be there to breathe life into all in need.

Emergency Medical Services Adjunct Instructor Eduard Herrmann

Emergency Medical Services Graduates On The Front Line Of Patient Care

When asked whether there were changes to Palm Beach State's popular and productive EMS programs because of the COVID pandemic, Associate Dean of Public Safety Barbara Cipriano replied, "other than increased social distancing and more personal protective equipment (PPE), not much."

You see, the program, which graduates about 96 Emergency Medical Technicians and 90 Paramedics annually, has been learning and practicing safety protocols for years. "Our faculty and instructors actually work saving lives in the field," added Dean Cipriano. "They have their finger on the pulse of what is happening in the real world and integrate that into their training."

The EMS program (as well as the fire and law enforcement academies) is self-contained in the Public Safety Complex, and its staff medical director establishes protocols. "Simulation has been part of our programs for decades, as has video training. Our labs mimic what students will encounter in the field – we have a working ambulance truck to train in transporting patients. And our clinical shifts bring the training to real life," she said.

Palm Beach State College EMS grads can be found in every fire station in Palm Beach County and at stations throughout the state. Feedback from hospitals, the fire service, and private practice grade them the "best of the best."

A Day at the Beach

Palm Beach State College paramedic student Natalie Martin was enjoying a break from the rigors of classwork, labs, and clinical with a fun day at the Boynton Beach Intracoastal inlet with friends on the long Thanksgiving weekend in 2020.

Suddenly, it became a life-changing moment for a young man diving into the water – its depth obscured. Too shallow. He didn't resurface.

Natalie sprang into action as a result of her recently completed Paramedic training, rescuing the young man from the water, clearing his airway, starting CPR, bringing back the breath of life. Fire rescue arrived to take the awake and breathing patient to the hospital.

After skilled medical treatment and rehabilitation, the young man walked on stage at the August 12, 2021, Palm Beach State College Paramedic graduation ceremony to present his surprised lifesaver with the program's first Phoenix Award, a national EMS recognition program for first responders who successfully bring back to life individuals who were in cardiac arrest and recover neurologically intact.

Natalie's 43 fellow graduates, her instructors, and Public Safety administrators gave her a well-deserved standing ovation for exemplifying the Emergency Medical Services motto, "On Call for Life." Standing with them was Austin Polly, a young man thankful for Natalie's skills and courage, looking forward to a fulfilling future.

Nearly everyone in attendance, including those in the audience, was brought to tears.

Natalie Martin and Austin Polly

When Lectures and Labs Meet Real Life

Clinicals are the "hands on" course work conducted in hospitals and other advanced medical facilities throughout the county that all EMS students must complete to finish the program. Under the supervision of a clinical instructor, students spend eight-hour shifts shadowing staff professionals and performing appropriate procedures on patients.

Sometimes it gets intense. Like on June 14, 2021, at Bethesda East Hospital, when a car with three shooting victims pulled into the emergency room entrance. PBSC paramedic students Cianna Camilleri, Lara Gallo, and Nicolas Fernandez, working their clinical shift, assisted Boynton Beach Fire Rescue with triaging and assessing the patients, then removing the most seriously injured patient from the vehicle. They then helped transport the patient into the emergency room and assisted with treatment under the care of hospital staff.

Among the many benefits of clinical experience is learning to manage chaotic situations and calm anxious patients, who are often in pain. The human quality of compassion can mean the difference between a good paramedic and a great one.

GODSEND

A Personal Story of Recovery

Foundation Board Chair Ricky Wade with Palm Beach State graduate, David Baldeo, RN

The fear and loneliness of an intensive care unit can overwhelm anyone, especially at night. And, while we may receive expert care, it can also be faceless, living behind the masks that protect us.

When Palm Beach State College Foundation Board Chair Ricky Wade found himself at Good Samaritan Medical Center, he expected quality care but not from who would give it, his own good Samaritan.

As with far too many over the past 18 months, COVID put Ricky in the ICU for seventeen solitary days. "The nights were the worst," recalls Ricky. "I was afraid to sleep, the anxiety (was) unbearable."

Several nights into his stay, Ricky was greeted with a fortuitous, "Mr. Wade!"

Palm Beach State graduate David Baldeo, RN, was working the night shift at Good Samaritan. During his time at the College, he was the student representative on the Foundation Board with Ricky

Ricky's time with David reflects the impact of the human element expected in caregiving as well as the values and goals found in Palm Beach State's mission.

guiding him as a mentor for several years. Now, the student was poised to be the mentor, a caregiver when he was needed most.

Immediately, the miserable nights that haunted Ricky became tolerable as he looked forward to David spending extra time with him, an intangible that would bring solace and help accelerate Ricky's recovery.

As a high school senior, David began his academic journey with the College's early admissions program in Fall 2014, leading to Associate in Arts and RN degrees. Earning his Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Palm Beach State in 2019, David took his first position with Wellington Regional Medical Center.

"I enjoyed the hands-on skills training of PBSC's nursing program. The experience gave me tremendous confidence when I started working in the field," recalls David, commending the professors and program that prepared him well. Today, David is giving back as an instructor with the College's Health Sciences skills lab, aiding students in their future roles as Palm Beach County medical professionals.

Ricky's time with David reflects the impact of the human element expected in caregiving as well as the values and goals found in Palm Beach State's mission. David's presence alone inspired hope for Ricky; his advanced skills provided something beyond faceless care; and he helped transform not only a recovery but also a fresh outlook on life and all that comes next. Since discharge and recovery, Ricky has celebrated a birthday and has kept in touch with David, who is pursuing his Master of Science in Nursing and recently overcame COVID himself.

As life is often stranger than fiction, it's a story that reminds us that we never know who we'll need or when they'll appear. There is a term that describes a chance encounter beyond coincidence: God-incidence. If serendipity indeed played a role, Ricky also makes clear with absolute conviction, "God planted him for my recovery. David was a godsend."

The DeLuca Foundation Aids Expansion of

CENTER OF EXCELLENCE IN MEDICAL SIMULATION

It's like wearing virtual reality glasses, except you are really there.

That's the experience Palm Beach State nursing and health sciences students will have as they enter the expanded Center of Excellence in Medical Simulation on the Lake Worth campus. From the moment they enter the lab spaces they will be immersed in an acute care hospital setting, including neonatal, trauma, intensive care, and operating room spaces—all decked out with real and simulated equipment, right down to the stainless-steel scrub sink where students prep for surgery. There's even a simulated ambulance patient compartment, often called the "box," where students prepare patients for transfer.

Mrs. Elisabeth DeLuca

Among the "patients" is the state-of-the-art SimMan 3G, a durable patient-manikin so realistic that its eyes blink, it speaks, it has interchangeable face skins to reflect diversity, and fully articulated arms. Students can perform tests such as blood pressure and pulse oxygen saturation levels using standard clinical equipment. They can deliver injections and see the effect on blood pressure or other functions in real time, and even perform defibrillation with real pads or paddles.

Similar to SimMan is SimBaby, designed to simulate a nine-month-old pediatric patient to help health sciences students effectively recognize and respond to critically ill pediatric patients. Acquisition of SimBaby was made possible by a grant from the Lost Tree Village Charitable Foundation.

The purpose of all this is to replicate as closely as possible real patient settings without having to leave the campus, supplementing essential clinical training in local hospitals and other facilities. "Eventually, nursing students will be able to complete fifty percent of their required clinical hours through medical simulation," explained Edward W. Willey, Dean of Health Sciences at Palm Beach State. Other health sciences students will experience similar results. "While clinical training in hospitals and other facilities is still paramount, simulation gives students the opportunity to learn and practice-practice-practice so they hit the floor running when they are in the field."

The 14,000 square-foot expansion of the existing center will enable students to become licensed practitioners and increase the pipeline of highly qualified medical professionals to serve the community's healthcare needs.

The expansion of the center is made possible by a grant from The Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation. The Foundation's president, Elisabeth DeLuca, is a former registered nurse who is dedicated to advancing the nursing profession. "During this pandemic, it has become increasingly clear how important our health care workers are," said Mrs. DeLuca. "Our educational institutions must plan for and provide pathways for people to enter this profession. That is what Palm Beach State College is striving to do, and we are pleased to partner with them.

Skilled nursing is at the heart of excellent patient care, and the simulation center is a critical component of training our health care workers to become the best they can be."

Mr. DeLuca was co-founder of the global SUBWAY® restaurant chain. The Foundation supports health awareness, workforce development, and artistic experiences through educational programs that enhance the lives of children and families throughout South Florida.

Congresswoman Lois Frankel delivers $1.9 million federal grant for innovation projects at Palm Beach State College

"This is not my mother's or my father's state college!" That's what Congresswoman Lois Frankel said while exploring the high-tech learning facilities and equipment at the Center of Excellence in Medical Simulation on the Lake Worth campus. The grant is part of a federal package to help colleges recover from the pandemic, serve students' needs, and foster workforce development.

Rendering of the new Frank DiMino Center for Medical Innovation on the Loxahatchee Groves campus

FRANK DIMINO CENTER FOR MEDICAL INNOVATION

We have seen the future of the study of anatomy and physiology, and it is here, now, at Palm Beach State College

Imagine, "dissecting" a cadaver without a scalpel. Following the development of a fetus through the world's first digital pregnancy. Bringing a CT scan to life with permanent, safe, touchable human specimens.

All that and more is now available to all of Palm Beach State's health science programs at the Frank DiMino Center for Medical Innovation, a multi-faceted initiative on the Loxahatchee Groves campus. The initiative uses 21st century technology to empower students with real-world learning experiences for healthcare education and careers.

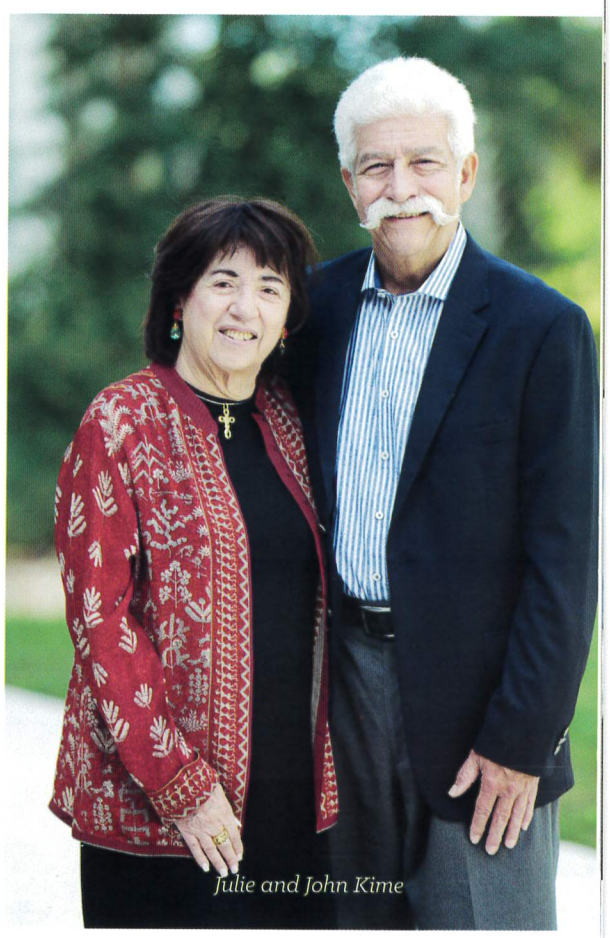
Soon, the Frank DiMino Dental and Medical Technology Center will open in a newly constructed, 82,731 square-foot, four-story building housing current and future programs in medical, dental, and surgical technology and training.

The eight-figure gift from the Frank DiMino Foundation is thought to be the largest in Palm Beach State's 87-year history. In presenting the gift, Mr. DiMino said, "Investing in our future begins with helping young adults reach their potential today. It is my pleasure to give this gift to Palm Beach State College. This will allow students to work toward improving our future for many generations." A portion of the funds will be used to establish The Raymond DiMino Promise Scholarship Endowment in memory of Mr. DiMino's son.

"We are honored to receive this extraordinary gift from Mr. DiMino, enhancing the legacy we have established in Loxahatchee Groves and throughout Palm Beach County," said Palm Beach State College President Ava Parker. "It is absolutely gratifying to have an individual like Mr. DiMino not only believe in our mission but also invest in it to ensure the valuable work of this College and help our students reach their goals."

David Rutherford, Vice President of Institutional Advancement and Executive Director of the Palm Beach State College Foundation, will lead the stewardship of the contribution. "Mr. DiMino's generous gift is truly a transformational investment in Palm Beach State, reflecting a shared vision with the College and a commitment to caring for others throughout our community," he said.

Mr. Frank DiMino



Julie and John Kime

Kimberly Lancaster
Dean, Academic Affairs

Julie & John Kime Library/Learning Resource Center to open on the Loxahatchee Groves Campus

Students on the Loxahatchee Groves campus will soon be using a new Library/Learning Resource Center in the multipurpose building, thanks to a generous donation from Julie and John Kime. "This is a beautiful, well-designed space on the third floor overlooking the campus," said Kimberly Lancaster, Dean of the Loxahatchee Groves and Belle Glade campuses. "It fills a real need for students' research, informal meetings and interactions."

"Palm Beach Community College, as it was known then, helped jump-start my career," said alumna Julie Kime, noting that her husband, John, was an alumnus when it was known as Palm Beach Junior College. "We are thrilled at the opportunity to add a Library/Learning Resource Center to the burgeoning Loxahatchee Groves campus and adding to the world of knowledge and understanding available at Palm Beach State College."

Edward W. Willey, Dean, Health Sciences with SynDaver Anatomy Model

AMAZING NEW LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES AND EQUIPMENT

It used to be that to get beyond the textbooks and flip charts of anatomy and physiology classes, colleges had to compete for human cadavers—scarce and in high demand, with health risks for both students and faculty.

Now, at the Frank DiMino Center for Medical Simulation, students can visualize anatomy exactly as they would on a cadaver, in accurate 3D, adjustable, adaptable, and completely without risk.

The Anatomage Table is a fully segmented, real human anatomy system displayed in full color on a surgical-table sized platform. Think of it as a giant iPad, responding to touch and swipe, zoom in and zoom out. Students can even send images to a 3D printer in the lab.

Anatomage is a visual and virtual dissection tool, giving students the opportunity to practice with no harm until they can practice with success. Each table has three-to-four different bodies in its memory for variety of experience and challenges. Individual structures are reconstructed in accurate 3D for precise dissection.

"The new generation of students is more accustomed to using technology," explained Dean of Academic Affairs Boca Raton, Roy Vargas. "Giving them the opportunity to use technology they are familiar with in entirely new ways is engaging and effective."

While wholeheartedly supporting the use of technology in training, Loxahatchee Groves Dean Kimberly Lancaster added, "As good as technology is, it will never eliminate the need for in-person clinical training. That's where compassion, the human side of healthcare, is perfected. Technology in campus labs means the student is more prepared for their first day at a patient's bedside."

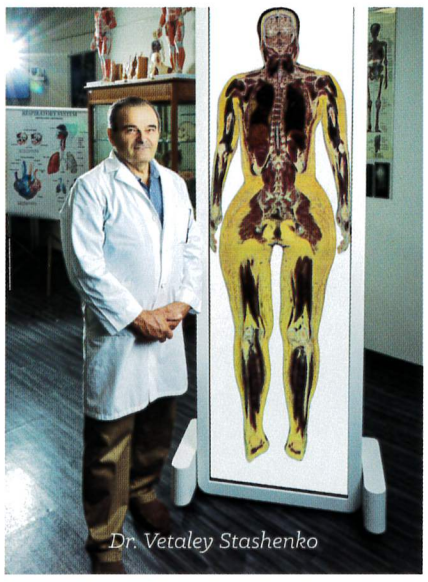
Meet 'Lacy.' She breathes, she bleeds, she sleeps under water, but she never complains.

Lacy is the nickname of the new SynDaver Anatomy Model now inspiring students at the Frank DiMino Center for Medical Simulation. Lacy is made from a proprietary blend of water, salt, and fiber, then shaped, stitched and colored to replicate the look and feel of the body—the skeletal system, organs, muscles, vascular systems, and skin.

Designed specifically for college-level study of anatomy, the SynDaver replaces human cadavers which are increasingly difficult and expensive to source, hazardous to work with, and require stringent storage protocols. Not so with Lacy. She's quite comfortable in a vat of water.

"I was taken aback at how advanced the technology is at Palm Beach State. I wish it was available when I went to medical school! It's exciting, and it will be a tremendous asset as today's students become tomorrow's healthcare workforce in Palm Beach County."

Melissa Friedman-Levine MD
District Board of Trustees



Dr. Vetaley Stashenko

Eric M. Kelly
President of the Quantum Foundation

High-Tech, High-Touch Teaching Tools Provided by the Quantum Foundation

"Funding initiatives that improve the health of our communities."

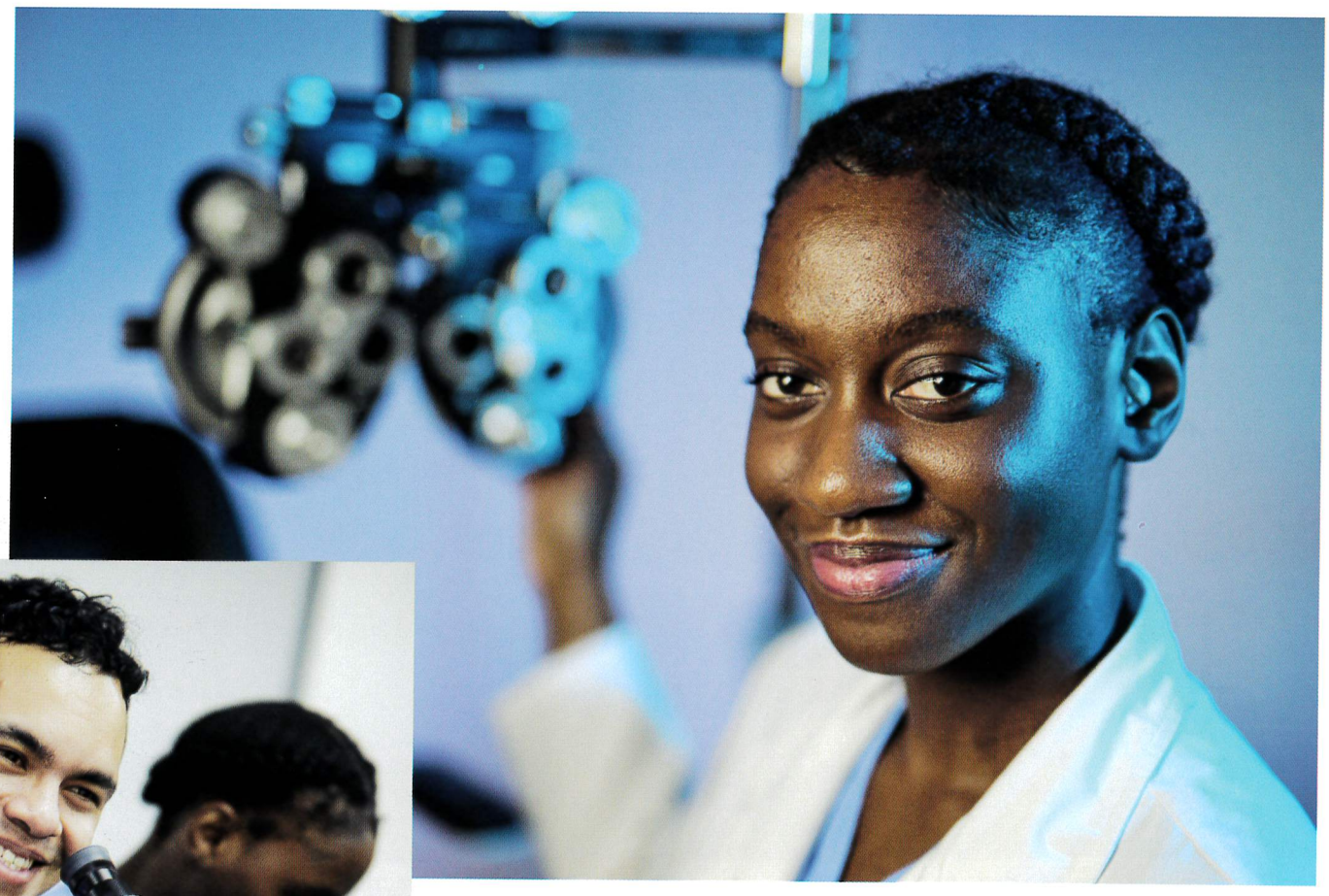
That's the mission of the Quantum Foundation, which, for over 20 years, has funded some of the most important, impactful, and transformative health-related projects in Palm Beach County.

The Quantum Foundation funded the SimMan 3G patient manikin now in use at the DeLuca Center of Excellence in Medical Simulation on the Palm Beach State Lake Worth campus, and the Anatomage Table and SynDaver Anatomy Model (aka "Lacy") at the Frank DiMino Center for Medical Simulation on the Loxahatchee Groves campus.

Eric M. Kelly is president of the Quantum Foundation. "Palm Beach State College is a valuable partner in our effort to build a diverse and representative healthcare workforce here in Palm Beach County," he said. "One of the most attractive features of Palm Beach State is the diverse student population in terms of race, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status. We are fortunate to have such a high-quality, high-tech medical education partner right here in our community."

President Ava Parker added, "The Quantum Foundation has been hand-in-hand with Palm Beach State for years, helping to fund important programs in our health sciences curricula and playing a critical role in the stream of top-quality job candidates for Palm Beach County hospitals, clinics, and private practices."

The Quantum Foundation grant also funded purchase of von Hagens Plastination human organ specimens. In 3D form or sliced like a CT scan, the safe and durable, real-human specimens enable students to visualize the human body in previously unattainable ways.



‘EYE ROOMS’ AND SURGICAL SUITE

Offer Ophthalmology Students Real-World Experience

An aging population has created a dire shortage of skilled ophthalmic specialists in the United States, and Palm Beach State College continues to advance its Ophthalmic Medical Technologist program to meet the need. “As one of only two fully accredited OMT programs in Florida, our program is making a difference in the lives of our students, their families, and the communities in which they serve,” said Robert M. Kershner, M.D., M.S., F.A.C.S., professor, chair and medical director of the Department of Ophthalmic Medical Technology. There are “more than 100 certified Ophthalmic Medical Technologists from Palm Beach State serving the citizens of south Florida, some at the number-one ranked Bascom Palmer Eye Institute and top-rated Veterans Administration Hospital,” he added.

The immersive technology and learning atmosphere is located at the new Center for Innovation in Health Sciences complex on the Palm Beach Gardens Campus. Students experience training in “eye rooms” just like those of the best ophthalmologists. Facilities include a fully equipped surgical suite where cameras capture exactly what the physician is seeing as she or he replaces cataract-fogged lenses. With these high-touch/high-tech/on-campus facilities, students gain the opportunity to optimize their skills, maximizing the benefits of real-world experience during clinicals at busy hospitals and surgical centers.

Detailed Images and Squishy Sounds of Sonography Give Parents and Physicians a Live Look Inside the Body

For many patients, their first exposure to sonography is the unbridled joy of detailed images and squishy sounds as they see their unborn child and hear her heartbeat for the first time. The steady hands and dimensional expertise of the sonographer provide not just parental joy but the opportunity for the physician to assess the health of both mother and child.

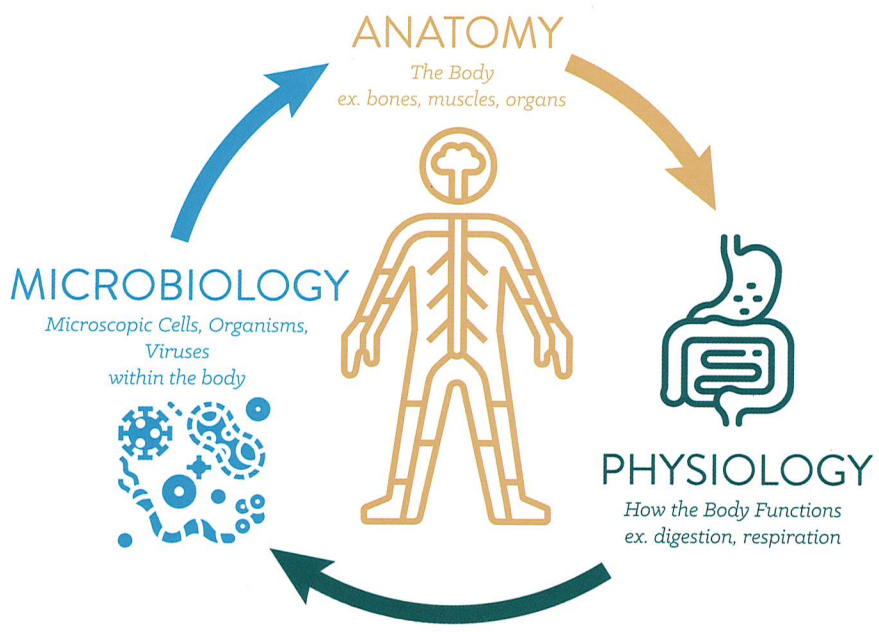
Associate Professor and Department Chair Patty Braga helped develop Palm Beach State's sonography programs when she joined the College in 2002. Going far beyond the parental thrill of seeing and hearing their baby, sonography in the hands of a skilled technician is a critical tool in helping physicians explore the causes of medical issues.

Professor Braga explains: "Dilated bile ducts may be seen in imaging the liver, but are they dilated because there's a stone stuck or because there's a mass at the head of the pancreas? You're thinking critically all the time about what that image means and where you go next."

Skilled sonographers, like most specialists in the medical field, are in high demand locally and throughout the state and nation.

ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY:

The Foundation of All Health Sciences



Just as bricks and mortar are the building blocks of structures, anatomy and physiology are the building blocks of all living things.

In human terms, anatomy is comprised of the body we see and the organs and associated body parts living inside us – including the heart, lungs, stomach, intestines, liver, kidneys, and, running it all, the brain. About 200 bones, 650 muscles, and enough skin to cover the floor of a four-person tent hold it all together and provide structure. And running to every part of the body, enough blood vessels to circle the earth four times. That's the human body. That's anatomy.

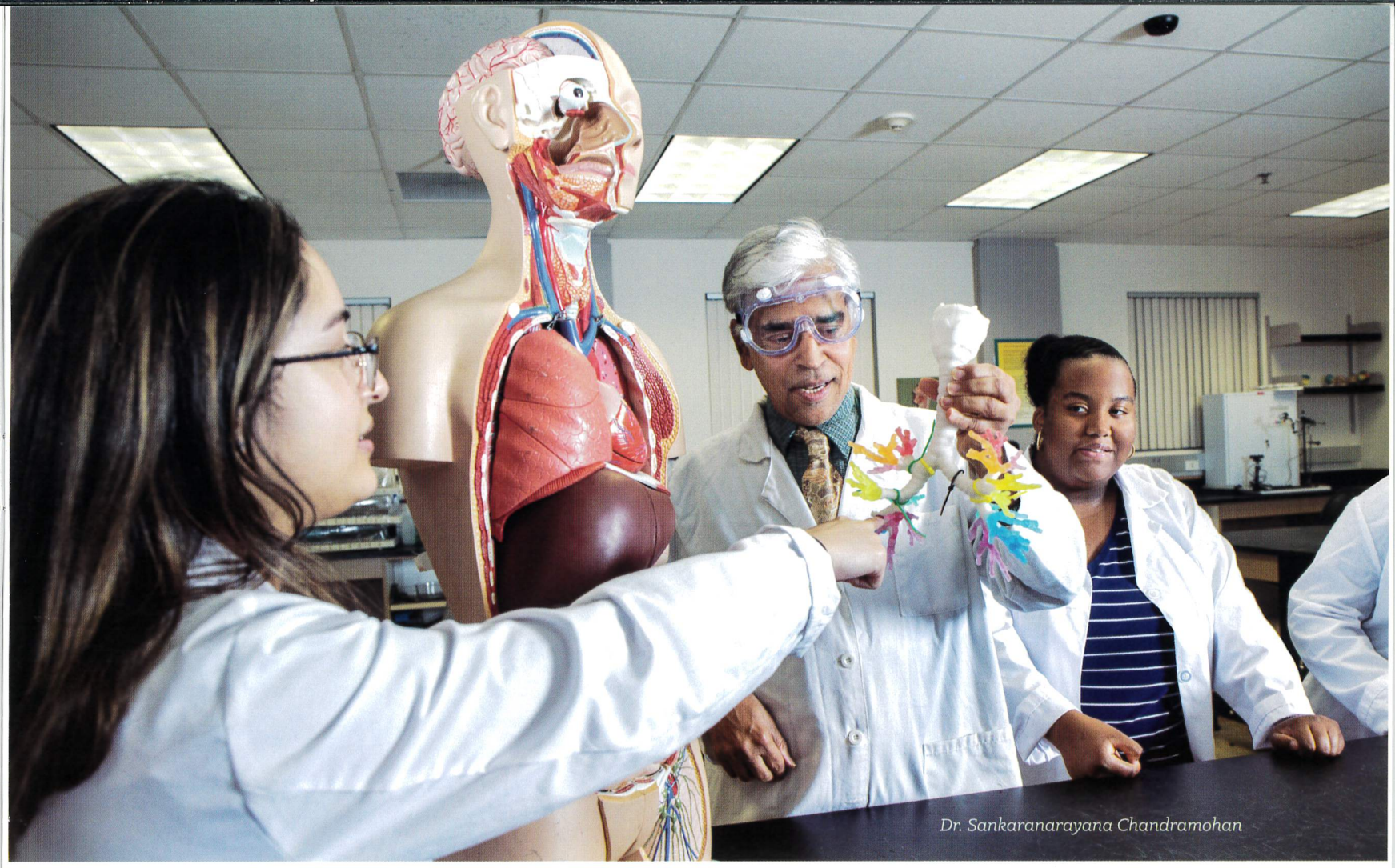
Physiology is the study of how it all works together. How the salad we have for lunch is converted into energy we need for all those body parts. How oxygen and carbon dioxide necessary for life are exchanged with every part of the body through those miles of blood vessels. How the delicate balances between body systems keep it all working well until something falters or fails, or something from outside invades.

Just as anatomy and physiology are the foundation of all health sciences, they are also prerequisite for all health science degrees.

How Many Human Cells Can Fit On The Head Of A Pin? ***About 10,000!***

Associated with anatomy and physiology is **microbiology – the study of things too small for the naked eye,** like those 10,000 human cells. In biology, a single cell is the smallest unit that can live on its own and that makes up all living organisms and the tissues of the body. How many cells comprise the "average" human body? Scientists have studied that for centuries and admit there is no definitive answer. A best guess is about 37 trillion cells!

Microbiology includes study of those tiny cells – which are good – and foreign organisms, like viruses – which are bad, as the world-wide battle against Coronavirus has tragically demonstrated.


Dr. Sankaranarayana Chandramohan

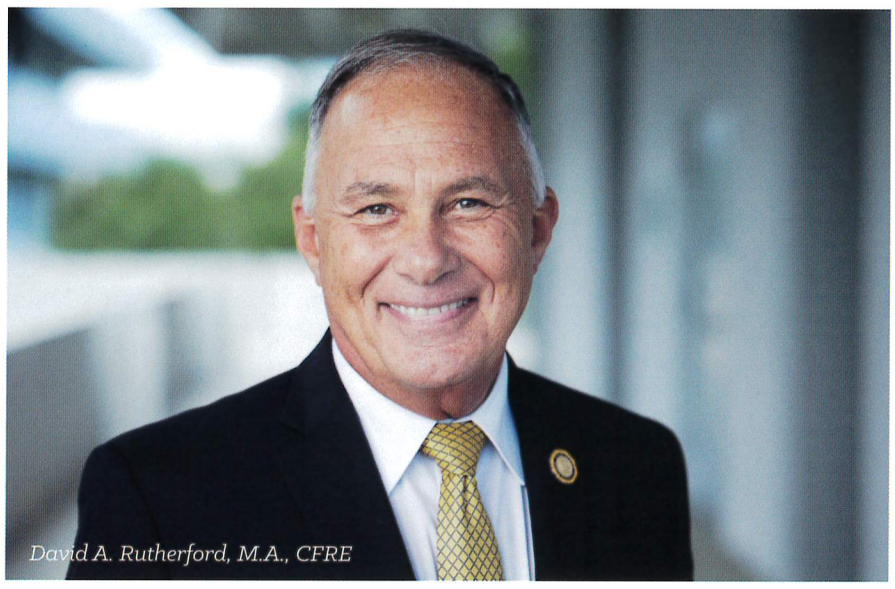
'Doctor Chandra' has Prepared Students to

EXCEL IN HEALTH SCIENCES FOR OVER 13 YEARS

Dr. Sankaranarayana Chandramohan has been bringing science to life for students at Palm Beach State since 2008, instilling a curiosity of the human body and mind, the environment that's within and surrounds us, and a passion for exploring things beyond our eyes. His teaching focus, he says, "includes academic excellence, resources, and shared responsibility building a healthy, wealthy, science-based, and highly skilled community."

In recent years, he expanded the horizon to pre-K-12 students through "STEM Saturdays," attracting young students to the College for interactive exhibits, interactive demos, and activities on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. In 2018 and 2019, his team organized large-scale STEAM Fests, adding the arts to the program. Each of these community events attracted nearly 800 guests. "Many of the young learners expressed interest to become PBSC students in the future," Dr. Chandra added.

Besides academic excellence, his other priorities include helping make college more affordable by helping students gain free access to electronic textbooks and open educational resources, leadership initiatives through service, volunteering and mentoring, and creating professional development opportunities.



David A. Rutherford, M.A., CFRE

Advancing Community *by Stewarding Philanthropic Partnerships*

Palm Beach State College has been educating Palm Beach County since the challenging time of the Great Depression. Nearly 90 years later, the College has again shown its resolve, enduring the adversity of the past 18 months. Now, with the PBSC Foundation securing new opportunities for medical advancement, Palm Beach State is leading the way to meet the demands for post-pandemic healthcare.

The DeLuca Center of Excellence in Medical Simulation at the Lake Worth campus embodies the evolution of the College as the model for medical innovation in Palm Beach County. With real-world training and state-of-the-art equipment, the College is providing a pipeline of highly qualified medical professionals to local and regional healthcare facilities.

The newest addition at the Loxahatchee Groves campus is the Frank DiMino Center for Medical Innovation, a 21st century facility that uses medical technology to expand healthcare education and careers, serving the western communities of Palm Beach County.

Since 1973, the Palm Beach State Foundation has been driving engagement in the College by stewarding philanthropic partnerships that further initiatives and benefit the workforce, economy, and culture of Palm Beach County. And, as the College and Foundation have grown, the vision has too. Palm Beach State has become a powerful catalyst that moves both students and community forward. While the College's business is education and the Foundation's is philanthropy, the commitment is the same: advancing this community.

Today, Palm Beach State is still The Community's College, poised for a second century of impacting lives as the heart of Palm Beach County.

Working Together to make Big Things Happen

Noel Guillama, vice-chairman of the Palm Beach State College Foundation Board of Directors, has a unique perspective of Florida's first public community college. Not only is he an alumnus, but he also spent his childhood living just down the street from the Lake Worth campus, attending Highland Elementary and junior and senior high school in Lake Worth. "I wasn't born here, but I was bred here," says the Cuban-born entrepreneur.

Now on his second tour of duty on the foundation board, he and the foundation's leadership have come to realize there is a much more active role to be played as the College continues to expand and mature. The incredible growth in health sciences facilities and equipment detailed in this President's Report indicates what happens when the education arm of the College and the philanthropic arm work together to make big things happen.

Noel Guillama

"As a resident of this county and a businessperson, I value the graduates of Palm Beach State College," he said. "Even more so, I am excited and enthusiastic about the institution's future and what that will mean to the students we serve."

"My relationship with Palm Beach State spans 30 years helping businesses find great candidates for rewarding local jobs. The College has been incredibly responsive to the needs of business, especially in the last five to ten years, with expansions in the medical and dental fields as well as cybersecurity and artificial intelligence. Businesses' goal is hiring great people locally. Palm Beach State is helping fulfill that goal."

Patrice Bishop, District Board of Trustees
Foundation Board Representative

2021-2022
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Summer COVID Surge

Increased Demand for Nurses, Respiratory Therapists

Trend Not Just Pandemic Related

"Surging COVID-19 cases and a nursing shortage are creating a perfect storm that is threatening the ability of hospitals to care for patients," reported The Palm Beach Post in mid-August 2021.

On closer examination, though, the "perfect storm" looks more like long-term sea change.

"Florida needs nurses now and well into the future," said Mary Mayhew, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Florida Hospital Association. "As Florida's population continues to grow, our healthcare system must be ready to meet the ever-increasing demand for services."(1)

A survey commissioned by the Safety Net Hospital Alliance of Florida reports that the state is facing a shortfall of 59,100 nurses by 2035. "As we have seen throughout this pandemic, there is no substitute for the care of an excellent nurse," Mayhew added.

Palm Beach State College is the leading local provider of nurses, dental hygienists, emergency medical technicians, and paramedics, a position it has maintained for decades. And with dramatic expansion of programs, facilities, and technology, The Community's College continues to lead the way meeting needs today and into the future.

(1) The Palm Beach Post Oct. 10, 2021

Palm Beach State Health Sciences

By the Numbers

24 **Health Sciences Pathways** at Palm Beach State

2,621 Number of **Health Sciences students** enrolled *per year**

Nursing grads per year

240 Associate in Science *per year**

87 Bachelor of Sciences *per year**

168 Emergency Medical Technicians *per year**

73 Paramedics *per year**

28 Dental Hygienist Grads *per year**

484 Certificates awarded *per year**

** All statistics are five-year averages, 2016-17 to 2020-21*

Reflections on the Community's College

Jahlissa Powell, RRT

Palm Beach State College, Class of 2020

One could not ask for a better representative for Palm Beach State College. On graduating magna cum laude from the Respiratory Care Associate in Science degree program, Jahlissa Powell pressed on to take the board exams to become a registered respiratory therapist eligible for state licensure.

Jahlissa not only passed the exams, she soared to the top of her class, scoring higher than any other graduate in the history of the 31-year-old program. On the clinical simulation exam, her score placed her a whopping 29 points above the nationwide average.

License in hand, Jahlissa was quickly hired at Jupiter Medical Center. Now, while continuing to work full time at the hospital, she has returned to Palm Beach State to earn her Bachelor of Science degree in Cardiopulmonary Sciences.

Born in St. Croix, U. S. Virgin Islands, she and her family moved to Louisiana when she was very young. After Hurricane Katrina they moved to Florida. She got her first taste of nursing at Inlet Grove Community High School in Riviera Beach, soon realizing she wanted to be a health care specialist, not a generalist. That led her to the Respiratory Care program at Palm Beach State.

When did you attend the College?
"I started with general education classes in Fall 2015, graduating in Winter 2017, then respiratory care Fall 2018 to May 2020."

What attracted you to Palm Beach State?
"By the time I graduated high school, I knew I wanted to go into respiratory care, so my sister helped me find a college offering that degree. Lucky for me it was close to home."

How long did you attend?
"Four years, with some time off between degrees due to class schedules."

Did you earn a degree?
"Yes, my A.A. in general education and A.S. in respiratory care."

What did you do after you left?
"After passing my board exams and receiving a state license, I was fortunate to be hired by Jupiter Medical Center, working night shifts full time. While that makes for a strange sleep schedule, it's allowed me to begin working on my B.S. degree in cardiopulmonary sciences at Palm Beach State."

What were some of your fondest memories of your time at PBSC?
"I was never a social person, but when I got into Palm Beach State it came naturally. Social with my classmates, social with my professors, social with my preceptors at the clinical sites, social with patients. My classmates and I formed a special bond. We would hang together outside of school—we still get together now whenever we can. At first, I had a hard time opening up to others. Now I've gained an extra skill—communication. Palm Beach State brought me out of my shell."

What is one thing you'd like people to know about today's PBSC?
"The educators at Palm Beach State are so passionate about their job, and the students are so engaged. It is not a place that you go just because it's affordable; you go because it's a community that helps you exceed your potential."

PALM BEACH STATE COLLEGE

Established 1933

BELLE GLADE CAMPUS
1977 College Drive
Belle Glade, FL 33430
561.996.7222

BOCA RATON CAMPUS
801 Palm Beach State
College Drive
Boca Raton, FL 33431
561.393.7222

LAKE WORTH CAMPUS
4200 Congress Avenue
Lake Worth, FL 33461
561.967.7222

LOXAHATCHEE GROVES CAMPUS
15845 Southern Boulevard
Loxahatchee, FL 33470
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3160 PGA Boulevard
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